

## **Jim Kramka, Director of Housing Operations, Vanderbilt**

They are consolidating housing to one geographical area of their campus so much new construction and demolition going on.

First phase was five new buildings----900 beds “Commons” for first year housing. Built as fairly traditional style housing (double rooms in double-loaded hallways) to create community and interaction. Faculty living in to facilitate living/learning. Dean of commons guides the first year experience/programming. It is a time to instill in students the values and culture of Vanderbilt.

Now they are tearing down 14 story towers to build new facilities for 1200 beds for upper class students. They call these “Residential colleges” consisting of a building of 330 beds each building. Suite style which includes most of a kitchen but no oven/stove top. More single rooms for upper class students. Each hall has a large dining area as eating together is an important part of the Vanderbilt experience.

Each hall has a faculty apartment where a faculty member lives and hosts 2-3 events per week.

One of these halls opened this fall and three more are underway. Total cost of these four buildings will be \$660 million. Paid for by rental income, borrowing and private giving.

A few comments from Jim....Vanderbilt hired an architect who had not designed residence halls before which has been challenging. He commented that the architects are not very client-oriented. He strongly recommends that we hire an architect who has designed student housing in past. Involve residential life staff, facility workers and the like in the design aspects.

He also suggested that you build new halls before you tear down old ones. They are not able to do this so they are uprooting/misplacing up to 600 students from campus housing while they build. He said this has been a real challenge.

We are welcome to visit should we like to see these facilities.

## **Diane Brittingham, Director of Housing, University of Oklahoma**

Housing consists of:

- Freshmen housing includes four, 10-story towers of about 4,000 beds (1,000 per tower) that were built in the '60s. They are all suite style on double loaded halls. They have just completed \$100 million improvements to these including life safety, HVAC, bathroom renovations, etc. Incidentally, their enrollment was down this year and one of the four towers was closed and is not in use right now.
- Athletic housing facility
- Residential colleges: Dunham and Headington Colleges are two new residence halls built last year. These were modeled after Yale's academic college concept. Faculty live in (about 2 faculty per hall). These are not specific disciplines nor are they themed halls. They are basically a microcosm of the larger university with all majors living in the halls, academic programming, etc. The mix of housing includes suite style (3 bedrooms, bath, and living room), double rooms,

and singles using a community bathroom. They have shared living spaces, laundry, and study spaces on every floor. Not full this year.

- Traditions Square East and West....two complexes of apartments. Very popular, about 95% filled at all times.
- "Cross" is a newly opened public/private partnership for upper class students. The private partner is Providence who owns the buildings but OU runs programming, leases, foodservice, etc. Consists of singles, doubles, and quads. Larger units have 1-2 bathrooms, living room and small kitchenette. All floors have community kitchens. Began as a rocky relationship because housing and foodservice were not at the table during beginning design and development---but it is much better now. Includes 8 foodservice options....all run by OU. It is not full this fall but they anticipate it will fill as more people experience it and news spreads.

A couple of other notes:

- Dining...beyond many specialty dining options, they also have an all-you-can-eat dining hall serving all halls/campus with 14 food stations (including Chick-fil-A).
- They use the ACPA residential curriculum for residential colleges. Includes educational priorities that they want students to get. Erica can provide more information on ACPA but Diane highly recommends it.
- We are welcome to visit if we would like to see these facilities.